25656/

Docket Clerk/U.S. DOT Dockets
Docket No. MARAD-2003-16248

Room PL-401, Nassif Building
Department of Transportation
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Sir:

I am writing to express strong support for Maersk Line, Limited's (MLL) request to transfer the fifteen Maritime Security Program (MSP) operating agreements from U.S. Ship Management (USSM). It is important to U.S.-flag shipping, national security, and the stability and reliability of defense sealift for the Maritime Administration (MARAD) to approve the MLL application.

As a crewmember serving on one of the vessels involved, it is vitally important that this matter come to a close. The crews on board these vessels want certainty about who will be the vessel operator. Transferring the vessel operating agreements to MLL provides the long-term certainty about crewing and the future of the vessels in the program that are critical to the U.S.-flag Merchant Marine and national defense sealift.

MLL is a respected commercial operator that provides vital assets and systems needed to meet defense sealift requirements, including employment opportunities for seafarers. Continued indecision in this matter is adversely impacting my future employment opportunities, military sealift and the MSP program.

After nearly eleven months of debate the time has come to bring this matter to closure. I strongly urge MARAD to approve the application to transfer the MSP operating agreements from USSM to MLL in order to bring stability and reliability back to MSP.

Sincerely,

Name:

Address:

SUFFOIKINA 23434

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Docket Clerk/U.S. DOT Dockets Room PL-401, Nassif Building Department of Transportation 400 Seventh Street, S.W. Washington, DC 20590

Support for Maersk Line's Request for Transfer of MSP Operating Agreements [MARAD-2003-16248]

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As a member of the Seafarers' International Union (SIU) that provides unlicensed crew for the vessels involved, it is vitally important to me and my fellow Seafarers that this matter come to a close. Transferring the vessel operating agreements to MLL provides the long-term certainty about crewing and the future of the vessels in the program that are critical to the U.S.-flag Merchant Marine and national defense sealift.

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Name: Joseph E. Waller Sc.
Address: Theodore H. 3(2582)

2003 OCT 10 P 2:31

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Name:	MARIO P. RUIZ
Address:	

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Sincerely,

Address:

BENJAMIN J. ADVINCY (A GY CARMANS RD

S-FARMINGDALE, NY 11735

2000 907 10 P 2: 34

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	Sincerely,	Jay Pilre
Name: Address:		

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	Sincerely,	
N	Mala Frague	
Name: Address:	4004 Lauren Ct	
	Destin FL 32541	

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Name: Address:	4/1226 1312/e/ 3425 60/1/e/D2 11/02 ST PAN MN 55123	

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Name:	Joseph M. Tierm	
Address:	PO BOX 11163	
radioss.	SEVENNAL GA 1903)	

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Sincerely,

Name: I.L. Colwell

Address: JACKSONVILLE, Florida 32225

200 001 10 P 2:35

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Sincerely, Dawn L. Wright

Name:	Diaun Wingni	
Address:	1920 anole st bol	
riduress.	Jacksmulle FL 32208	

200 901 10 P 2:35

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Victora Villes

Name:

Address:

P.O. Box 207 Barton, MD 21521

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Name: Jaume	Wans
Address: 701 Sudbroo	
BAltimore MI	21208

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Name:	1/ Shompson	
Address:	764 AUE,G	
	WESTWEEC, LA 70084	

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Name:	HECTOY 5. SEYYANO
Address:	HC-20BOX29262 San Lorenzo
Address.	P.R.00754







Important Message to the Memberships of the MM&P, MEBA and SIU

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

We are writing to update you on important information concerning the transfer of Maritime Security Program (MSP) Operating Agreements from U.S. Ship Management (USSM) to Maersk Line, Limited (MLL).

It is vital to note that the unions have Job Preservation Agreements in place that protect every job on the fifteen (15) vessels that will be transferred from USSM to MLL. The Job Preservation Agreements also contain provisions that protect all jobs including the new vessels Maersk brings under the American Flag to replace some of the older ones.

It must be understood that Maersk purchased Sea-Land in 1999, not USSM. MLL has the ownership interest in the vessels, not USSM. MLL owns the containers and intermodal systems associated with the vessels, not USSM. MLL owns port terminals and facilities all over the world, not USSM. Basically, USSM does not own any assets that are required by the Maritime Security Program.

Further, Congress is positioned to approve MSP reauthorization legislation that would allow the exact same arrangement as proposed by MLL. As a result, USSM's days are numbered in the current program and less than certain in any future program.

You may be told by USSM that MLL is not a United States Company. What USSM will not tell you about Maersk Line, Limited is that MLL is based in Norfolk, Virginia and was incorporated in the United States in 1947. MLL began actively managing five vessels in 1983 under a long-term contract with the Military Sealift Command (MSC). MLL is independently controlled by a board of directors comprised entirely of United States citizens including two retired Admirals from the U.S. Navy. And, MLL today is the largest sealift contractor with the U.S. Department of Defense.

Our duty to our respective members dictates that we preserve your jobs. Accordingly, we ask that you not be tricked into believing that you will lose your jobs or be looked upon as un-American. Instead, know with certainty that when MLL takes over direct control of the MSP vessels you will keep your job, be sailing on an American flag vessel as a U.S. Merchant Mariner and be working for a U.S. company.

Finally, on October 3, 2003, MARAD published a notice in the Federal Register soliciting public comment on a request by MLL to transfer the MSP Operating Agreements from USSM to MLL. The Department of Transportation – specifically, the U.S. Maritime Administration – has already ruled that MLL is an "eligible transferee" of the MSP Operating Agreements should MLL desire to become the MSP contractor.

To this end, USSM may ask you to support their position to remain as the operator of MLL's vessels. USSM may even ask you to sign certain form letters that they will submit to the Department of Transportation. <u>We advise that you not sign any letters that have been prepared by USSM</u>. Instead, the unions will be forwarding to the respective members, form letters that in turn should be signed and sent to the Department of Transportation – letters that will protect your jobs.

Fraternally,

Vimothy & Brown, President

MM&P

Ron Davis, President

MEBA

Michael Sacco, President

SIU

Docket Clerk/U.S. DOT Dockets Room PL-401, Nassif Building Department of Transportation 400 Seventh Street, S.W. Washington, DC 20590 2003 OCT 10 P 2: 36

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As a member of the Seafarers' International Union (SIU) that provides unlicensed crew for the vessels involved, it is vitally important to me and my fellow Seafarers that this matter come to a close. Transferring the vessel operating agreements to MLL provides the long-term certainty about crewing and the future of the vessels in the program that are critical to the U.S.-flag Merchant Marine and national defense sealift.

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After nearly eleven months of debate the time has come to bring this matter to closure. I strongly urge MARAD quickly to approve the application to transfer the MSP operating agreements from USSM to MLL in order to ensure our future and that of the program.

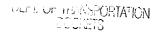
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Name:

Address:

Mario D. Jorrey

Portsmouth, Va. 23703



2003 OCT 10 P 2: 36

Docket Clerk/U.S. DOT Dockets Room PL-401, Nassif Building Department of Transportation 400 Seventh Street, S.W. Washington, DC 20590

Support for Maersk Line's Request for Transfer of MSP Operating Agreements [MARAD-2003-16248]

Dear Sir:

Please add my name to those who strongly support Maersk's request to transfer the fifteen MSP operating agreements from U.S. Ship Management (USSM). It is important to U.S.-flag shipping, national security, and the stability and reliability of defense sealift for the Maritime Administration (MARAD) to approve the MLL's request.

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Name:	A.0363
Address:	cylle i S. 24 El Rosavio II U.B. P.R. 00693

2000 OCT 10 P 2: 36

Docket Clerk/U.S. DOT Dockets Room PL-401, Nassif Building Department of Transportation 400 Seventh Street, S.W. Washington, DC 20590

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After nearly eleven months of debate the time has come to bring this matter to closure. I strongly urge MARAD quickly to approve the application to transfer the MSP operating agreements from USSM to MLL in order to ensure our future and that of the program.

Sincerely,

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Address:

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2003 OCT IN D 2: 27

Docket Clerk/U.S. DOT Dockets Room PL-401, Nassif Building Department of Transportation 400 Seventh Street, S.W. Washington, DC 20590

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Name:	Christopher Prosado
Address:	Juncos, P.R. 00227

Docket Clerk/U.S. DOT Dockets Docket No. MARAD-2003-16248 Room PL-401, Nassif Building Department of Transportation 400 Seventh Street, S.W. Washington, DC 20590 2003 COT IN P 2:37

Dear Sir:

I am writing to express strong support for Maersk Line, Limited's (MLL) request to transfer the fifteen Maritime Security Program (MSP) operating agreements from U.S. Ship Management (USSM). It is important to U.S.-flag shipping, national security, and the stability and reliability of defense sealift for the Maritime Administration (MARAD) to approve the MLL application.

As a crewmember serving on one of the vessels involved, it is vitally important that this matter come to a close. The crews on board these vessels want certainty about who will be the vessel operator. Transferring the vessel operating agreements to MLL provides the long-term certainty about crewing and the future of the vessels in the program that are critical to the U.S.-flag Merchant Marine and national defense sealift.

MLL is a respected commercial operator that provides vital assets and systems needed to meet defense sealift requirements, including employment opportunities for seafarers. Continued indecision in this matter is adversely impacting my future employment opportunities, military sealift and the MSP program.

After nearly eleven months of debate the time has come to bring this matter to closure. I strongly urge MARAD to approve the application to transfer the MSP operating agreements from USSM to MLL in order to bring stability and reliability back to MSP.

Name: Address:	Christopher Rosado P.O.Box 1074	
Address.	Juncos, P.R. 00222	

200 007 In P 2: 37

Docket Clerk/U.S. DOT Dockets Room PL-401, Nassif Building Department of Transportation 400 Seventh Street, S.W. Washington, DC 20590

Support for Maersk Line's Request for Transfer of MSP Operating Agreements [MARAD-2003-16248]

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Sincerely, J. D. Niday IV

Name:

Address:

John B. Niday IV

Pearland, Tx, 77581

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2000 OCT 10 P 2: 37

Docket Clerk/U.S. DOT Dockets Room PL-401, Nassif Building Department of Transportation 400 Seventh Street, S.W. Washington, DC 20590

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Sincerely,

Name:	Lloyd LA DEACH	
Address:	823 W. 24th St. UNIT 2	
riddress.	SAN Pedro, CA. 90731	
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Sincerely, James K. Broh

Name:	James K. Enah.	
Address:	920 Oakdale Ave	
Addiess.	W.ST. Paul MN 55118	